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PTO/SB/08A (08-06)

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 1

Complete if Known

| | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Application Number | 09/843,998 |
| Filing Date | 04/27/2001 |
| First Named Inventor | Joseph A. Zierolf |
| Group Art Unit | 3821 2876 |
| Examiner Name | Edwynn Glazie |
| Attorney Docket Number | 200017 USA |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner
Signature

Edwyn Cabare

Date
Considered

7/15/02

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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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| | | | | Application Number | 09/843,998 |
| | | | | Filing Date | April 27, 2001 |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | Joseph A. Zierolt |
| | | | | Group Art Unit | 2821 7876 |
| | | | | Examiner Name | Edwynn Labere |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 3 | Attorney Docket Number | 200017 USA |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------------------|---|--|
| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | U.S. Patent Document | | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY |
| | | Number | Kind Code ² (if known) | | |
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|--------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|---|--|
| Examiner Initials | Cite No. ¹ | Foreign Patent Document | | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY |
| | | Office ³ | Number ⁴ | Kind Code ⁵ (if known) | |
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| EL | Y | EP | 0 730 083 A2 | Gazda et al. | 09/04/96 |

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| Examiner Signature | Edwynn Labere | Date Considered | 8/15/02 |
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| <p>Sheet</p> | | <p>2</p> | <p>of</p> | <p>3</p> | <p>Attorney Docket Number</p> |
| <p>Application Number</p> | | <p>09/843,998</p> | | | |
| <p>Filing Date</p> | | <p>April 27, 2001</p> | | | |
| <p>First Named Inventor</p> | | <p>Joseph A. Tierolf</p> | | | |
| <p>Group Art Unit</p> | | <p>2821 2876</p> | | | |
| <p>Examiner Name</p> | | <p>Edwynn T. Sarge</p> | | | |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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| Examiner Signature | Effusion (abx 2) | Date Considered | 5/10/02 |
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EXAMINER: Initial references considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 509. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Unique citation designation number. ² See attached *Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents*. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST 10 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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| <p>Substitute for Form 1449B/PTO</p> <p>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</p> <p>(use as many sheets as necessary)</p> <p>Sheet 3 of 3</p> | | | | <p>Complete if Known</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>Application Number</td> <td>09/843,998</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Filing Date</td> <td>April 27, 2001</td> </tr> <tr> <td>First Named Inventor</td> <td>Joseph A. Tierolf</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Group Art Unit</td> <td>2821 2876</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Examiner Name</td> <td>Edwlyn Klags</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Attorney Docket Number</td> <td>200017 USA</td> </tr> </table> | | Application Number | 09/843,998 | Filing Date | April 27, 2001 | First Named Inventor | Joseph A. Tierolf | Group Art Unit | 2821 2876 | Examiner Name | Edwlyn Klags | Attorney Docket Number | 200017 USA |
| Application Number | 09/843,998 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Filing Date | April 27, 2001 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| First Named Inventor | Joseph A. Tierolf | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Group Art Unit | 2821 2876 | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Examiner Name | Edwlyn Klags | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Attorney Docket Number | 200017 USA | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

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|--------------------|--------------|-----------------|---------|
| Examiner Signature | Edwyna Faber | Date Considered | 8/15/02 |
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Unique citation designation number Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached

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